

A

REVIEW

OF THE

STATE

OF THE

BRITISH NATION.

Thursday, January 18. 1711.

The Author being in Scotland, and the Account of any Publick Action not reaching him under a Week's time after we have it in London; It cannot be, but that sometimes his Conjecture of Things will be a little out of Time; and ought to be taken as the State of Affairs were when he wrote it.

AS the King of France said after the Battle of Blenheim, when he first heard of the Defeat of his Army, and of the taking of Marschal Tallard, **NOW THE WAR IS BEGUN;** Mighty Disputes have been made in the World about carrying on this War; some would have it one Way, some another; some most in Flanders, some especially in Spain; some every where, some no where: But Fate has now decided the Quarrel; the Confederate Army, if our Accounts are true, is Overthrown: Count Starembergh being Retreated out of a Bloody Battle with a few broken Troops, has a long, and I fear an Impracticable March, and if it be as the

French relate, cannot escape falling into their Hands, without an eternal Reproach to their Conduct; King Charles, if he gets safe to Barcelona, which I confess I do not expect, yet there he cannot defend himself, perhaps not escape; the Confederates have no Fleet in the Mediterranean, the French a strong Squadron, and perhaps more fitting out; our Fleet has some Troops on Board, but not Sail'd, nor do I think it can be safe such a handful of Men should go, till they know whether the Place is likely to be in our Power when they come there. — Now the War is began — The next Question is, How it shall be carried on?

Now

Now pray, Gentlemen, will you let me make one Remark of my own, upon the Temper of the Times — Pray will you look to these People who had the immediate End of the War in their View, in whose Opinion, after the Battle of *Saragossa*, *Spain* was our own, the *French* reduc'd, Peace in View, all the Work was done — That were for singing their *Te Deum*, and boasting what might have been, had these Things been done some Years ago; that upbraided King *Charles*, for not going to *Madrid* fast enough, or Humouring the hot-spur Motions of a Person, who thought his Counsel as good, as if he had had more Experience — Now mark these Men, the Chagrin, the Astonishment, the Discourag'd Countenances are all amongst them — And so' it is always.

But what are you amus'd at Good People? Did we never loose a Battle before? Is *Spain* lost? But *Britain* is not lost — The Confederacy is not lost — Have we no more Troops, no more Money, no more Day-light for the War? What's the matter with you? How are the Tables turn'd? The *French* have gotten all your *English* Spirits, and you are all turn'd *French*-Men? — We have given it frequently as the Chhraster of the *French* Nation, that once beat them, and they'll never look you in the Face again — Now how often have we beaten the *French*, and yet you see they fight us again upon all Occasions; but We, poor disheartned cow'd *English* Folk! We have lost a Battle, and we cry All is lost; We have lost a Battle, and we cry we have lost the War; No, no, Gentlemen, *the War is but now begun*.

Well says a Chagrin *Tory* Friend of mine, but we have lost *Spain*; the Seat of the War, where we had purpos'd so carry on the War, in a new and particular manner; and now we may be beaten out of it, before we can come to set our Foot upon it — Well, and what then, say I? Then you must carry it on some where else, or Force your way in again in spite of the Conquerors, as you did once before; for this is not a War to be given over for one Battle — How many Battles have you beaten the

French in? And yet did they give it over? Did they not reject your Terms of Peace, and venture another Campaign, after five greater Defeats than this? — This War must not be given over, unless you will give the Cause over, which I hope *Britain* will never do, tho' she were left alone in it, which God forbid.

Now, that I may not speak Words of Encouragement, without Encouraging Reasons, I shall Enquire here, with the Pardon of our Superiours, into the State of the War — I would not be suppos'd to reflect upon any Body's Judgment, when I offer my mean Arguments, as to the manner or Place of carrying on this War. It is mention'd in the Publick, that this War is to be carry'd on Principally in *Spain* — I do confess, without disrepect to the Publick, I cannot think the carryng on the War in *Spain*, is the Way to obtain the great End of the War, I mean a Peace, with the Restitution of the *Spanish* Monarchy; I shall speak plainly, tho' with all possible Deference to the Government, and I shall back my Opinion, with an Authority, which I hope will pass for sufficient.

It was always my Thought, and I have more than once express'd it publicly, that had not a Ship or a Man been sent to *Spain* — or *Portugal*, and had all the Treasure, and all the Troops which have been, as it now appears, lost there, been sent to another part of the World, I believe this War had long ago been at an End — And yet I shall Disappoint all your Expectations now, who think I am Advocating for Parties, and Pleading the Opinion of some, whose Judgment is more out of Fashion than it uses to be, for I declare I do not mean in *Flanders* at all, nor shall I meddle with that Dispute at this Time — But if you will let me shoot my Fool's Bolt patiently, I'll tell you in a few Words, after I have Calculated the Number of Troops, and the Expence which in these seven Years War, since the first Attempt upon *Barcelona*, have been laid out upon this over-laid Enterprize, of a War to be carried on in *Spain*.

The Number of Troops sent to, and Landed in *Spain* and *Portugal* from the beginning

ginning of this War, including some Regiments of *Portuguese* in the Confederate pay, and some Troops of *Catalonians* and *Spaniards* rais'd in the Country, not to trouble you with the Particulars from whence I Calculate them, Amount, as I reckon them up, to about 120000 Men; in which I reckon *Britains*, *Dutch*, *Imperialists*, *Palatines*, *Neapolitans*, *Millanois*, and as above, *Portuguese*, and *Spaniards*.—

The Money expended is an immense Summ, and not easily Calculated; but if I am not misinform'd, the Expence this Nation has been at, amounts to near Twelve Millions, including the Fleet in the *Straits* and Ships Employ'd in the Transport Service, and all this, besides the Expence of the *Dutch*, the *Emperor*, and the Kingdom of *Naples*, &c.

Now, Gentlemen, had they appointed Thirty stout Men of War, and 8000 Land Men, of those Thousands whose Bones lie now in *Spain*, been Employ'd the first Year of this War, in Conjunction with such Forces, as our Colonies would have join'd, being Men season'd to the Climate; had these been sent to the *Spanish West Indies*, and reasonably Recruited, the Seas, of which we have been all the War Masters, having been kept clear of the Enemy, and they prevented from following us, as might easily have been done.— Had these Troops been Employ'd to seize the *Havana*, *Cartagena*, and *La-veira Cruce*, and by that, the *Spanish* Commerce, by which the Source of Money had been stop'd, which has supported both *France* and *Spain*, and which till such stop, I believe firmly, will never be reduc'd.

If this had been done, I leave it to any Reasonable Man to Judge, whether *France* had not long since been reduc'd, and the King of *France* been oblig'd to have disgor'd *Spain*, to have preserv'd himself.

I know there are some Popular Objections against this Attempt, and have heard those Objections Debated before me, whose Judgment no Man will dispute, and of whom, I shall say more in my next.— The Chief of these Reasons are, *The unhealthi-*

ness of the Country, and the Strength of the *Spaniards*.—As to the latter, did not Monsieur *Ponty* take *Cartagena* with 12 Ships and 2500 Men.— And what Force in that Country, before the French strengthen'd them, could have withstood 8000 Regular Troops, and about 2 or 3000 *Indians* or *Buccaniers*, &c. of our other Colonies.— As to *Sickness*, could we have lost more than we have done in *Spain*? Could a Hundred and Twenty Thousand Men have died here? Could we have lost the Expedition by the Loss of 20000 Men, if so many had fallen, which had Morally been impossible?

But what had been our Success? What had been our Advantage then? How many Millions had we brought Home to an Exhausted Nation? How many *Cheques* of Trade had we open'd? What an Eruption of our Manufactures should we have made into that part of the World, whose return in Silver had Circulated through the Nation, and added new Life to our decay'd Commerce?— What Supplies had the Government obtain'd to carry on the War? And to help excuse the Parliament for two or three Years, that they might give the Nation leave to Breathe, from the constant Phlebotomy of continual Taxes.— But oh! the Gulph.— The view of the Advantages is so vastly great, that I can say no more.— But the King died, between whose Hand this Glorious Scheme was in a fair Way of being Concerted, and which had it gone on, I had had the Honour to have been not the first Proposer only, but to have had some Share in the Performance.

I have the Schemes still by me, and I look on them with Regret, to think such a Nation as this should still want to have a Thing recommended to them, so undeniably Advantageous to their Interest, and so impossible to be prevented by the Enemy.

I shall name other Methods, in my next.

A D V E R.

ADVERTISEMENT.

THE fam'd Balsamick Lobach for the Lungs

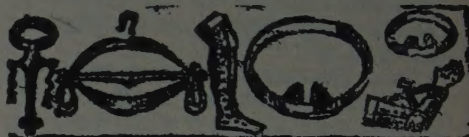
The only long experienc'd Medicine known to open, cleanse, strengthen, heal, and preserve them; whence all Asthmatick, Pibiscall, Catarhous Distillations; Coughs of all kinds, which strain, weaken, fret, and make raw the Lungs, by their sharpness and Violence, are speedily remedied, the Passages lubricated, and free Liberty of Breathing restor'd; so that Consumptions, generally occasion'd by those Disorders are prevented, and the Patients from the utmost Danger thereof secur'd. It may be taken going Abroad in the sharpest Weather, without the least danger of Cold; price 2s. 6. a Bottle with Directions. Sold only at the Golden Key in Warions-Cours near Holborn Bars.

(1)

A New Treatise of the Venereal Disease; In two Parts; the first of which Treats, 1. Of the Name and Original Cause of this Disease. 2. Of the Essence and Nature of the Infection. 3. Of the various Ways of Giving and Receiving, Symptoms first Discovering, an infallible Way of preventing its Infections. 4. Of a C— and its Symptoms. 5. Of the Cure of a C—. 6. Of a simple Gonorrhea, and all Weaknesses in Men and Women; and their Cure. 7. Of a confirm'd P—, and its Cure. 8. Of Mercury, its good Effects, and how to Remedy its ill Effects. 9. Of the P— complicated with other Diseases. 10. Of Diet, &c. proper for Venereal Patients. The second Part contains an effectual Answer to Mr. Martin's Treatise concerning the Venereal Disease, and the Charitable Surgeon, Sold (Pr. 18d. at my House the Golden Ball between the Swan and Castle Taverns in Milkstreet Market, Cheapside.

W Pabulum Naturæ, or Food of Nature, WHICH in all Declensions and Decays of the Body, Hæticks, Consump-

tions, inward weaknesses and wastings, loss of Flesh and Strength, whether from Excess, or Habits, immoderate Fluxes, or other secret Evacuations or Causes; as also in all Genital Imbecilities and Insufficiencies in both Sexes is the most sure and certain Cordial Restorative in the whole Materia Medica. Sold in 5 s. Bottles, at Mrs. Coles at the Dial and two Crowns, against St. Dunstons Church in Fleet-Street. With Printed Directions at large



BARTLETT of Goodman's-Fields who has been so successful in the Cure of Ruptures, by Steel Spring-Trusses, with Joints or without, so wonderfully light and easie, that one of the largest Size, seldom exceeds 4 Ounces in Weight, and one of the smallest rarely exceeds a quarter of an Ounce.

He is to be spoke with, the Forenoon every Day at his House, at the Golden eBall by the Ship Tavern in Prescot-Street in Goodmans Field, London. And the Afternoons at the Golden Ball over against Cheapside Conduit, near St. Pauls.

N. B. For Privacy, he will attend any Gentleman at any Place, near the Places and Hours above-mention'd. Those, who live in the Country, may be supplied by sending Letters.

N. B. His Mother, the Widow of the late Mr. Christopher Bartlet, lives at his House in Goodman's-Fields, and is very skilful in the Business to those of her own Sex.

Printed for and sold by John Baker at the Black-Boy in Water-Notter-Row. 1711.